

Abstract

An areal metal element is described having a surface which extends from a first outside edge to a second outside edge lying opposite the first outside edge. The region of the metal element adjoining the first outside edge forms a first edge region and the region of the metal element adjoining the second outside edge forms a second side region. Both side regions are connected to one another by a central region lying therebetween, with at least one completely bordered aperture being formed at least in one of the side regions, with its border being formed in one part by this side region and in another part by the central region. The central region includes at least two sections which each consist of two outwardly disposed part sections and a central part section lying therebetween. The outwardly disposed part sections are folded over with respect to the central section to produce the aperture. The sections form part of the border of the aperture and the central region including the sections is made in one piece with the two side regions of the metal element.